

Listing of All Claims Including Current Amendments

1-36. (Cancelled).

37. (Currently amended) Method of handling a wind turbine blade at least during storage, transport or mounting of the blade, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing at least ~~one~~ two mounting holes penetrating a surface of the blade, mounting one or more handling means including at least two mounting means in said at least ~~one~~ two holes, wherein said mounting means extend through the wind turbine blade on opposite sides of a strengthening structure inside the blade, and

handling the wind turbine blade by at least said handling means on the wind turbine blade ~~where said one or more handling means are forced against the surface of the blade by said mounting means.~~

38. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 37, wherein said at least ~~one~~ two mounting holes are is established by a drilling process.

39. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 37, wherein said at least one mounting hole is marked with visual signs indicating a location of the hole wherein the visual signs comprise visual lines or circles on the surface of the blade.

40. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 37, wherein said mounting includes entering said mounting means through the blade.

41. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 37, wherein said handling means are connected to handling rods, plates or walls.

42. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 41, wherein the connection to said handling rods, plates or walls is established by use of bolts, thread bars, or welding means.

43. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 37, wherein the blade is handled at least by suspension points established by said handling means.

44. (Previously presented) Method of manufacturing a wind turbine blade to be handled, said method comprising:

manufacturing at least a first and second shell of a wind turbine blade;
reinforcing at least one hole area of an inner surface of at least one of said shells by applying further layers of material; and
establishing at least one mounting hole penetrating surface of the wind turbine blade at said at least one hole area.

45. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 44, wherein said at least one mounting hole is established by a drilling process.

46. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 44, wherein said at least one mounting hole is marked with visual signs indicating a location of the hole wherein the visual signs comprise visual lines or circles on the surface of the blade.

47. (Currently amended) Handling system for handling a wind turbine blade at least during storage, transport or mounting of the blade, said system comprising:

at least ~~one~~ two mounting holes penetrating the surface of the blade,
one or more handling means to be positioned on the surface of the wind turbine blade and including a surface substantially or partly corresponding in shape to the section of the wind turbine blade that it covers, and

at least two mounting means to be mounted in said at least ~~one~~ two holes.

wherein said mounting means extend through the wind turbine blade on opposite sides of a strengthening structure inside the blade.

48. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where said handling means are connected to a handling structure comprising handling rods, handling plates and/or handling walls of a transport container.

49. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where said handling means are made in metal comprising a steel plate, in glass fiber reinforced plastic materials alone or glass fiber reinforced plastic materials reinforced with carbon fiber or aramid.

50. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where said system comprises two handling means positioned on opposite side of the wind turbine blade.

51. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 50, where said two handling means directly or indirectly are connected by the mounting means.

52. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 51, where two flanges are fastened to opposite ends of the handling means and establish connection points for the mounting means.

53. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where said mounting means is one or more bolts or thread bars with corresponding nuts.

54. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where said mounting means goes through the wind turbine blade next to a beam or any other strengthening structure in the blade.

55. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 54, where two of said mounting means go through the blade on opposite side of said beam or any other strengthening structure in the blade.

56. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where one or more of the surfaces of said handling means comprise a high friction material.

57. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where said blade comprises at least one hole area with one or more reinforcement layers on an inner surface of the blade.

58. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 57, where said reinforcement layers comprise glass fiber reinforced plastic materials alone or reinforced with carbon fiber or aramid.

59. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where a length of said blade is at least 30 meters.

60. (Previously presented) Handling system according to claim 47, where a weight of said blade is at least 6000 kilogram.

61. (Currently amended) Wind turbine blade to be handled at least during storage, transport or mounting, said blade comprising at least one hole area with one or more reinforcement layers on an inner surface of the blade and at least ~~one~~ two holes where said at least ~~one~~ two holes penetrate[[s]] a surface of the blade at the hole area and on opposite sides of a strengthening structure inside the blade.

62. (Previously presented) Wind turbine blade according to claim 61, where said reinforcement layers comprise glass fiber reinforced plastic materials alone or reinforced with carbon fiber or aramid.

63. (Previously presented) Wind turbine blade according to claim 61, where the surface of said at least one hole area includes visual signs indicating a location of the at least one hole wherein the visual signs comprise visual lines or circles.

64. (Currently amended) Wind turbine blade according to claim 61, where one or more of said at least ~~one~~ two holes ~~[[is]]~~ are part of the lightning protection system of the blade.

65. (Previously presented) Wind turbine blade according to claim 61, where a length of said blade is at least 30 meters.

66. (Previously presented) Wind turbine blade according to claim 61, where a weight of said blade is at least 6000 kilogram.

67. (Currently amended) Handling means for a wind turbine blade at least during storage, transport or mounting, said handling means comprising:
at least one surface substantially corresponding in shape to a section of the wind turbine blade which is covered by the handling means; and
one or more mounting holes for fastening means fastening said handling means to surface of the wind turbine blade by using at least ~~one~~ two holes in the wind turbine blade on opposite sides of a strengthening structure inside the blade.

68. (Previously presented) Handling means according to claim 67, where said means are made in metal comprising a steel plate, in glass fiber reinforced plastic materials alone or glass fiber reinforced plastic materials reinforced with carbon fiber or aramid.

69. (Previously presented) Handling means according to claim 67, where one or more of the surfaces of the handling means comprise a high friction material.

70. (New) Method according to claim 37, wherein said mounting means extend through the wind turbine blade at positions that ensure that balancing and handling of the blade with just two suspension points, where a first point is at a root and a second is at the handling means.